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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1791  
INFO RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0024  
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0028  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0038  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 000193

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/05/2018  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNSC](#) [IS](#) [PM](#)  
SUBJECT: PANAMA: GAZA UNSCR DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: STATE 22380

Classified By: POLCOUNS Brian R. Naranjo. Reason: 1.4 (d)

"Panama would like to see a more balanced text with respect to Gaza," Panamanian MFA UNSC advisor Ernesto Cerrud told POLCOUNS on March 5 in response to reftel demarche. "The problem with these Middle East resolutions is that they are always so unbalanced and fail to adequately acknowledge the co-responsibility that both sides have." Cerrud asserted that PanPR Ricardo Arias was likely to propose that the word "disproportionate (desproporcionado)" be replaced with "inordinate (desmesurado)." POLCOUNS suggested that such word-smithing was unlikely to restore balance to the text and urged Panama to support broader efforts to restore balance to the text. Cerrud agreed that if the language "disproportionate or excessive" were struck that it would be possible to move forward on discussions on the text. (Comment: The Spanish words "desproporcionado" and "desmesurado" have essentially the same meanings or at the very least are too close in meaning to have much of a distinction in this context. The both mean: disproportionate, excessive, and inordinate.)  
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